Housing Committee

September 9, 2026

The Housing Committee held a regular meeting on September 9, 2026 at 6 pm, in City Hall, 180 Market Street, and by Zoom.

Members present: Nora Senecal, Meghan Tedder, Tasos Zois, Sandy Dooley, Dawn Philibert

Also present: Miranda Lescaze, CHT; Elizabeth Fitzgerald, City Councilor; Kelsey Peterson, Senior City Planner

1. Housing Trust Fund: Request for Funding from CHT

The Housing Committee received a request for $200,000 from the Housing Trust Fund from Champlain Housing Trust for part of a project for upgrades, maintenance, and tree management at Dorset Commons. CHT provided the site plan, description, and current funding layout. Miranda Lescaze for CHT gave description of project as general modernization and updates for a property from the 1970s.

Committee members questions about lead paint, the housing unit income restriction distribution, long-term tenancy, and the scope of Phase I of the project. Committee members and E. Fitzgerald asked for something written of the income distribution of the units (% of AMI limits), asked questions about funding stack and how the funding sources are structured and limited, and specifically if the mini-splits were included in Phase I being funded (they are not).

The Housing Committee has set up a meeting on October 6 (instead of the regular meeting date on October 14) for consideration of this request and a potential draft recommendation from the Committee to City Council. Additional materials were requested from CHT by September 18.

2. Other Business:
    a. Green Community Festival

N. Senecal volunteered to staff the table for the Housing Committee at the Green Community Festival on September 19, potentially with T. Zois. The Committee discussed additional resources for the table potentially from CVOEO, Habitat for Humanity, and CHT.

b. Next Meeting

The Committee decided to review the recommendation on the CHT request with the updated materials from CHT. N. Senecal and M. Tedder are to draft the recommendation in advance. The agenda shall warn potential action on the CHT request.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

_____

Clerk